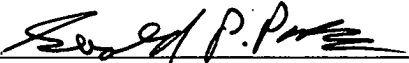


## REMARKS

In light of the rejected claims 19 -22 being cancelled, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and an early indication of its allowance is solicited. However, if the Examiner has any further matters that need to be resolved, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney at 415-318-1163 would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerald P. Parsons  
Reg. No. 24,486

December 7, 2004  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

PARSONS HSUE & DE RUNTZ LLP  
655 Montgomery Street, Suite 1800  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
(415) 318-1160 (main)  
(415) 318-1163 (direct)  
(415) 693-0194 (fax)